

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 122874

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS AND ASSISTANT
ADMINISTRATOR AND DEPUTY US COORDINATOR KLEINE

FOLLOWING REPEAT GEORGETOWN 0773 ACTION SECSTATE INFO BRIDGETOWN
CARACAS USCINCSO KINGSTON LONDON PARAMARIBO AND PORT OF SPAIN
23 MAY 75

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L GEORGETOWN 0773

CINCSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PFOR,N6

SUBJECT: BURNHAM SAYS HE PLANS ORTHODOX SOCIALISM FOR GUYANA; DAMNS
PRIVATE ENTERPRISE

1. SUMMARY: PM BURNHAM IN PUBLIC SPEECH CATEGORICALLY PLACED HIM-
SELF IN ORTHODOX SOCIALIST CAMP, EXPLAINING THAT CO-OPERATIVE
SOCIALISM WAS DIFFERENT ONLY AS MEANS OF ATTAINING SOCIALISM. HE
LAMBASTED CONCEPT AND PRACTITIONERS OF FREE ENTERPRISE, LABELED
THEM AS GUYANA'S ENEMIES, AND CALLED ON HOST JAYCEES TO CUT TIES
WITH PARENT BODY IN U.S. OR RENOUNCE OBJECTIVE THAT ECONOMIC
JUSTICE CAN BEST BE WON BY FREE MEN IN FREE ENTERPRISE. SPEECH
CONFIRMS OTHER INDICATIONS OF BURNHAM'S AND PNC LEADERS
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INCREASINGLY RADICAL SOCIALISM. EMBASSY SPECULATES THAT ENEMIES

WARNED AGAINST PERHAPS SET UP AS STRAW MEN AND THAT CRITICISM OF CARICOM NEIGHBORS AS NOT BEING TRULY SOCIALIST MAY RESULT FROM SELF IMAGE AS CARIBBEAN LEADER TO RADICAL SOCIALISM OR AS REACTION HB THEIR CRITICISM. END SUMMARY.

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED.

2. PM FORBES BURNHAM IN PUBLIC SPEECH IN BAUXITE TOWN OF LINDEN, ORGANIZED BY LOCAL JAYCEES MAY 22, MADE MOST CATEGORIC PUBLIC STATEMENT YET OF HIS IDEOLOGICAL ANTIPATHY TO PRIVATE ENTERPRISE AND HIS INTENTION OF LEADING GUYANA INTO SOCIALIST CAMP. ACCORDING LOCAL PAPERS, WHICH PUBLISHED SPEECH ON QUOTE A SOCIALIST GUYANA IN THE CARIBBEAN UNQUOTE AS HEADLINE STORY MAY 23, HE WARNED AUDIENCE THAT POWERFUL CAPITALIST SYSTEM AGAINST WHICH GUYANA IS FIGHTING WOULD NOT TAKE GUYANA'S ENTRY INTO SOCIALIST CAMP LYING DOWN, SINCE SUCCESSFUL SOCIALISM IN GUYANA WOULD CAUSE QUOTE DOMINO THEORY TO OBTAIN IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD UNQUOTE. IF GUYANA WERE ABLE TO PERSUADE BY EXAMPLE ITS CARICOM BROTHERS TO TURN TO THE ROAD TO SOCIALISM, ACCORDING TO BURNHAM, THE CAPITALISTS WOULD TRY TO ENSURE THAT QUOTE WE MUST BE DESTROYED UNQUOTE. AS EXAMPLE OF SUBTLE TACTICS OF QUOTE ENEMY UNQUOTE, BURNHAM CITED USE OF SPYS PLANTED BY FBI IN U.S. TO PROVIDE INFORMATION LEADING TO DESTRUCTION OF BLACK PANTHERS.

3. BURNHAM TOOK PAINS TO DISABUSE AUDIENCE OF IDEA THAT CO-OPERATIVE SOCIALISM OF GUYANA WAS DIFFERENT FROM ORTHODOX SOCIALISM (ONE PAPER USED THE TERM COMMUNISM). HE REPORTEDLY STATED QUOTE IF THERE BE ANYONE WHO BELIEVES THAT BECAUSE WE TALK OF CO-OPERATIVE SOCIALISM, OUR OBJECTIVE IN SO FAR AS ESTABLISHING SOCIALISM IS DIFFERENT FROM THAT OF ANY OTHER SOCIALISTS, YOU ARE MISTAKEN. AND IF YOU DO NOT WANT TO SHARE IN SOCIALIST OBJECTIVE, THEN, UNTIL THE TIME WE HAVE EDUCATED YOU, THE PNC IS NOT THE PLACE FOR YOU UNQUOTE. HE SAID THAT THE ONLY WAY THAT HIS CONCEPT OF SOCIALISM WAS DIFFERENT FROM THAT OF ANY OTHER SOCIALIST WAS THE BELIEF THAT SOCIALISM IN GUYANA COULD BEST BE ACHIEVED THROUGH THE INSTRUMENT OF THE CO-OPERATIVE. HE ELABORATED THAT THE BELIEF OF SOME TYPE CO-OPERATIVE SOCIALISM IS A NEW TYPE OF SOCIALISM IS ERRONEOUS, CONFIDENTIAL

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ADDING AT ANOTHER POINT THAT HE ACCEPTED LENIN'S THESIS THAT IMPERIALISM WAS A DEVELOPED FORM OF CAPITALISM AND THAT THE ENVITABLE TRIUMPH OF SOCIALISM WAS A NATURAL DEVELOPMENT. WHILE GUYANA WAS NOT A SOCIALIST STATE, IT WAS A COUNTRY, LED BY A SOCIALIST PARTY WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF MAKING IT A SOCIALIST STATE, ACCORDING TO BURNHAM.

4. BURNHAM USED JAYCEE'S FORUM TO ATTACK AN OBJECTIVE OF JAYCEE'S

MOVEMENT WHICH HE SAID STATES THAT ECONOMIC JUSTICE CAN BEST BE WON BY FREE MEN IN FREE ENTERPRISE. HE CONTINUED BY SAYING THAT IF JAYCEES WANTED TO PLAY A PART IN CHANGE WHICH WOULD TAKE PLACE IN GUYANA, THEY MUST EITHER DISASSOCIATE THEMSELVES FROM PARENTBODY IN U.S. OR REWRITE THAT PARTICULAR OBJECTIVE. HE PREDICTED THAT THE LOCAL JAYCEES MOVEMENT WOULD ONE DAY BE CALLED UPON BY ITS PARETBNBODY TO OPPOSE WHAT THEY WOULD REGARD AS QUOTE THE SOCIALIST DICTATORSHIP WHICH THE PNC IS TRYING TO ESTABLISH IN GUYANA UNQUOTE.

5. BURNHAM ALSO THREW OUT VEILED WARNING TO OTHER CRICOM COUNTRIES THAT GUYANA WOULD CONTINUE AS A MEMBER OF CARICOM ONLY IF SUCH MEMBERSHIP DID NOT CAUSE IT TO COMPROMISE ITS SOCIALIST OBJECTIVES AND MADE DISIRRAGING ALLUSION TO GENUINESS OF JAMAICA'S COMMITMENT TO SOCIALISM.

END UNCLASSIFIED

6. SOURCE IN PM'S OFFICE TOLD DCM THAT SPEECH WAS EXTEMPORANEOUS AND ALSO THAT IT WAS MADE FROM NOTES AND THAT TEXT IS, THEREFORE, UNAVAILABLE. ANOTHER GOG SOURCE TOLD PAO THAT TRANSCRIPT BEING PREPARED FROM TAPE, BUT THAT IT WILL BE SENT TO PM'S OFFICE FOR MINOR EDITING AND QUOTE EMBELLISHING UNQUOTE BEFORE BEING RELEASED AND THAT PROESS MAY TAKE TWO WEEKS. WHEN AND IF WE OBTAIN TRANSCRIPT, WE WILL ANALYZE IT FURTHER AND FORWARD TO DEPT.

7. COMMENT. PRELIMINARYHLOCAL REACTION SEEMS TO CONFIRM OUR BELIEF THAT RATHER VIRULENT SPEECH MARKS FURTHER STEP BY BURNHAM TOWARE PUBLICLY PLACING HIMSELF MORE SOLIDLY IN IDEOLOGICAL SOCIALIST-COMMUNIST CAMP. IT APPEARS TO BE PUBLIC AFFIRMATION OF WHAT WE UNDERSTAND HE HAS BEEN SAYING PRIVATELY WITHIN PNC AND GOG CIRCLES. ALLUSIONS TO FOREIGN FREE ENTERPRISE ENEMIES AND CONFRONTATION PROBABLY INTENDED AS STRAW MEN TO DIVERT LOCAL CRITICISM. CRITICISMOF LACK OF SOCILIST COMMITMENT OF CARICOM
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PARTNERS MEY BE REACTION TO POSSIBLE FOREIGN CRITICISM OF GUYANA'S RADICAL COURSE OR COULD BE INDICATION BURNHAMSEES HIMSELF AS CHARISMATIC LEADER LIGHTING WAY TO RADICAL SOCIALIST FUTURE FUTURE FOR CARIBBEAN. SPEECH ALSO CONTAINS INFERENCE THAT BURNHAM'S CELEBRATED PRAGMATISM MAY GIVE WAY TO MORE AUTHORITARIAN BEHAVIOR TO EXTENT HE ENCOUNTERS RESISTANCE OR PASSIVISM ALONG ROAD TO HIS GOAL. IN THIS REGARD, A BACKWARD GLANCE AT JAGAN'S PERFORMANCE IN POWER (1954-64) CAN BE REWARDING.
KREBS

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